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I, Peter K. Trzyna (Reg. No. 32, 601), hereby certify that this  
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under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated below and is  
addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks,  
Washington, D.C. 20231 on the date set forth below:

Signed: Peter K. Trzyna  
Peter K. Trzyna (Reg. No. 32,601)

Date: 14 Aug 1998

**PATENT**

Paper No. 1

File: Graff-P2-98

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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Inventor : GRAFF, Richard A.  
Serial No. :  
Filed : 14 August 1998  
For : MORE IMPROVED SYSTEM AND METHODS FOR  
COMPUTING TO SUPPORT DECOMPOSING  
PROPERTY INTO SEPARATELY VALUED  
COMPONENTS  
Group Art Unit :  
Examiner :

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Honorable Commissioner of Patents  
and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY**

**S I R :**

With respect to the above-identified enclosed Patent Application, as a below-named  
inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence and post office address, and citizenship, are correctly stated below.

I believe that I am the original and first inventor of the subject matter which is claimed  
and for which a patent is sought on the invention in the undersigned's above-identified  
Patent Application. I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of  
the above-identified specification, including the claims. I acknowledge the duty to  
disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance  
with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56(a)(b), and (c) which state in part:

(a)...Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent  
application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which  
includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to  
be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose

information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is canceled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned... There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim... The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:...

- (2) the closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentability defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.

(b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and

- (1) It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim;...

A prima facie case of unpatentability is established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability.

(c) Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:

- (1) Each inventor named in the application;
- (2) Each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and
- (3) Every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application.

I do not know and do not believe the invention was ever known or used in the United States of America before my invention thereof, or patented or described in any printed publication in any country before my invention thereof or more than one year prior to this application and that the same was not in public use or on sale in the United States of America more than one year prior to this application.

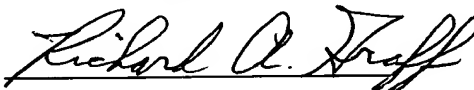
I hereby appoint the following as my attorney to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith: Peter K. Trzyna (Reg. No. 32,601).

Address all correspondence to Peter K. Trzyna, P.O. Box 7131, Chicago, IL 60680-7131.

Address all telephone calls to Peter K. Trzyna at telephone number (312) 240-0824.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statement may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Inventor's Printed Full Name: Richard A. Graff

Inventor's Signature: 

Date: 14 August 1998

Citizenship: U. S. Citizen

Residence & Post Office Address: 222 East Pearson Street, #2308

City State Zip Chicago, Illinois 60611 USA

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Signed: *Peter K. Trzyna*  
Peter K. Trzyna (Reg. No. 32,601)

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Examiner	:	

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Washington, D.C. 20231

**VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY  
STATUS (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.9(f) and 1.27(c)) -  
SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN**

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S I R :

I hereby declare that I am an official of the small business concern empowered to act on behalf of the concern identified as Graff/Ross Holdings (hereinafter, the "Assignee"), a partnership organized under the laws of the State of Illinois having an address at 400 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 415, Chicago, Illinois 60611. I further declare that this small business concern qualifies as a small business concern, as defined in 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.9(c) and 121.12 for purposes of paying reduced fees under Sections 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, to the Patent and Trademark Office with regard to the invention described in the above-identified patent application, in that the number of employees of the concern, including those of its affiliates, does not exceed 500 persons. For purposes of the Declaration Claiming Small Entity Status, (1) the number of employees of the business concern is the average over the previous fiscal year of the concern of the persons employed on a full-time, part-time or temporary basis during each of the pay periods of the fiscal year, and (2) concerns are affiliates of each other when either, directly or indirectly, one concern controls or has the power to control

the other, or a third party (or parties) controls or has the power to control both.

I further declare that rights under contract or law for the above-identified invention and patent application have been conveyed to, and remain with, the small business concern identified above. These rights are exclusive and no rights to the invention are held by any person, other than the inventor, who would not qualify as an independent inventor under 37 CFR § 1.9(c) if that person made the invention, or by any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR § 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR § 1.9(e).

I acknowledge the duty to file in this application notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 C.F.R. § 1.28(b)).

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

Date: August 14, 1998

Signed: Richard A. Traff  
Manager  
Title